

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A user interface for a portable electronic device comprising a first row of input keys, a
2 second row of input keys adjacent to the first row, and a third row of input keys adjacent to
3 the second row, wherein each key of the first row represents a linear character stroke, each
4 key of the third row represents a non-linear character stroke, and the second row includes at
5 least one key representing a linear characters stroke and at least one key representing a non-
6 linear character stroke.
- 1 2. The user interface of claim 1, wherein the second row includes at least one key
2 representing a dot.
- 1 3. The user interface of claim 1, wherein said angular character strokes include a
2 clockwise hook component, a counter-clockwise hook component, a clockwise angular
3 component, and a counter-clockwise angular component.
- 1 4. The user interface of claim 3, wherein:
2 the clockwise hook component includes a substantially downward line having an end
3 portion that hooks to the left;
4 the counter-clockwise hook component includes a substantially downward line having
5 an end portion that hooks to the right;
6 the clockwise angular component includes a substantially rightward line having an
7 end portion that angles downward; and
8 the counter-clockwise angular component includes a substantially downward line
9 having an end portion that angles to the right.

1 13. A user interface for a portable electronic device comprising:
2 a plurality of single stroke keys corresponding to individual character strokes used to
3 form a particular ideographic character; and
4 at least one combination stroke key corresponding to a particular sequence of the
5 plurality of single stroke keys used to form the particular ideographic character.

1 14. The user interface of claim 13, wherein the individual character strokes include linear
2 character strokes, non-linear character strokes and at least one dot.

1 15. The user interface of claim 13, wherein:
2 the plurality of single stroke keys corresponds to a substantially vertical component, a
3 clockwise angular component and a substantially horizontal component; and
4 the at least one combination stroke key corresponds to a box formed from the
5 substantially vertical component, the clockwise angular component and the substantially
6 horizontal component.

1 16. The user interface of claim 13, wherein the plurality of single stroke keys represents
2 numbers 1 through 9 of a numeric keypad, and the at least one combination stroke key
3 represents number 0 of the numeric keypad.

1 17. The user interface of claim 13, wherein the at least one combination stroke key
2 corresponds to a "kou" component of an Asian language.

- 1 18. A portable electronic device for processing an ideographic character having at least
2 one ideographic section, the portable electronic device comprising:
3 a keypad including a plurality of single stroke keys and a combination stroke key,
4 each single stroke key corresponding an individual character stroke and the combination
5 stroke key corresponding to a particular sequence of the plurality of single stroke keys;
6 a processor coupled to the keypad, the processor being capable of forming at least one
7 ideographic section upon selection of the particular sequence of the plurality of single stroke
8 keys and being capable of forming the at least one ideographic section upon selection of the
9 combination stroke key; and
10 a display coupled to the processor to show the at least one ideographic section.
- 1 19. The user interface of claim 18, wherein the individual character stroke is one of a
2 group consisting of a linear character stroke, a non-linear character stroke and a dot.
- 1 20. The user interface of claim 18, wherein:
2 the plurality of single stroke keys corresponds to a substantially vertical component, a
3 clockwise angular component and a substantially horizontal component; and
4 the combination stroke key corresponds to a box formed from the substantially
5 vertical component, the clockwise angular component and the substantially horizontal
6 component.
- 1 21. The user interface of claim 18, wherein the display shows ideographic sections of an
2 Asian language.
- 1 22. The user interface of claim 18, wherein the combination stroke key corresponds to a
2 "kou" component of an Asian language.